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DESCRIPTION OF *TELENOMUS SOLITUS*, N. SP. (HYMENOPTERA: SCELIONIDAE), A NOCTUID EGG PARASITOID

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Abstract.—A new species, *Telenomus* ***solitus*** from Guatemala, is described on the basis of specimens reared in the laboratory from the eggs of *Trichoplusia ni* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae).

I present a description of this species of *Telenomus* in order to provide a name to be used in conjunction with the biological studies of Rufina Navasero (University of California, Riverside [UCR]). The description is based upon specimens reared in the laboratory from the eggs of the cabbage looper, *Trichoplusia ni* (Hübner) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). This culture was founded by wasps collected by E. R. Oatman (UCR) in Salala, Guatemala, from unidentified noctuid eggs on potato foliage. The terminology used follows that of Johnson (*in press*).

Telenomus solitus Johnson, NEW SPECIES

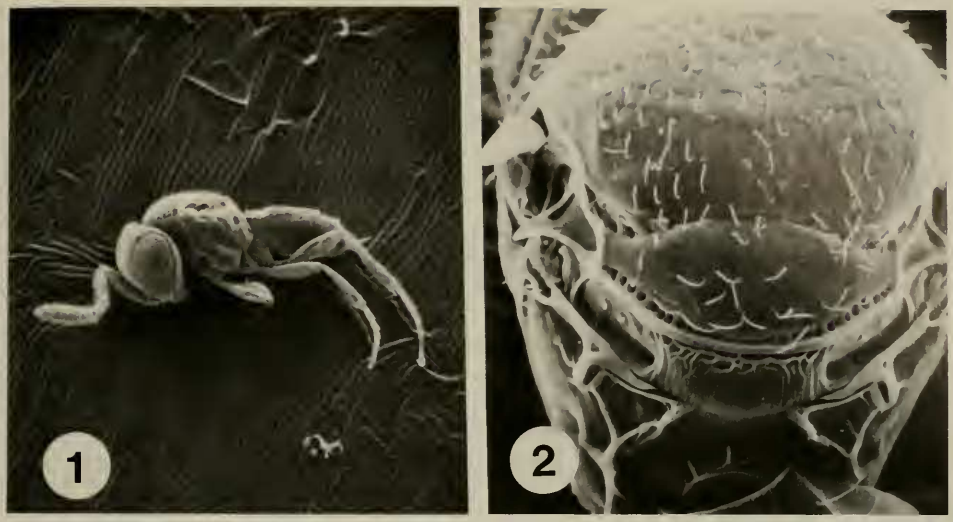
Figs. 1–5

Female.—*Color:* Tarsi yellowish brown; head, body, antenna, legs otherwise dark brown.

Measurements: DCI: 1.82–2.00 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.89, SD = 0.05); FCI: 1.06–1.36 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.22, SD = 0.07); frons width/eye height: 1.12–1.42 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.26, SD = 0.08); W/L Tl: 4.0–7.0 ($\bar{x}$ = 5.3, SD = 0.9, n = 17); L/W T2: 0.72–1.07 ($\bar{x}$ = 0.90, SD = 0.08, n = 17); L/W metasoma: 1.34–1.81 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.63, SD = 0.13); TL: 1.24–1.50 mm ($\bar{x}$ = 1.31 mm, SD = 0.06); sample: 20-1.

Head: Vertex smoothly rounded onto occiput, reticulate throughout, sculpture very shallowly impressed; no hyperoccipital carina; sculpture on vertex continuing on occiput to occipital carina; occipital carina complete, irregular medially, simple (i.e., not crenulate); frons smooth, with small punctures at bases of setae; orbital bands present only ventrally, area between lower ½ of eye and antennal insertions shallowly reticulate; ocellar setae absent; no preocellar pit; frontal depression absent or very poorly developed, frons convex between eyes, not bulging between inner orbits and antennal insertions; eyes heavily setose; inner orbits rounded at level of lateral ocelli; temples not bulging, not grooved, reticulate sculpture along posterior orbits extending halfway to occipital carina.

Mesosoma: Mesoscutum convex, shallowly reticulate throughout, setal bases not pustulate; notauli absent; scutellum smooth, setose; dorsellum (Fig. 2) well developed, as long laterally as medially, punctate above, striate below, sculpture



Figs. 1–2. *Telenomus solitus,* female. 1, Lateral habitus, 49×. 2, Dorsellum, 263×.

sometimes effaced medially; acetabular carina simple; episternal foveae absent; width of intercoxal space slightly less than length of forecoxa, 2–3× length of setae arising from its surface; anterior margin of midcoxal cavity not expanded, simple; mesopleural furrow well developed; mesopleural carina absent; acetabular field small, reaching neither intercoxal space nor mesopleural furrow; posterodorsal corner of metapleuron not expanded; metapleural carina indicated by only short spur posteriorly.

Metasoma: T1 with 1 pair of sublateral setae, 2 pairs of lateral setae; greatest length of basal costae on T2 less than medial length of T1.

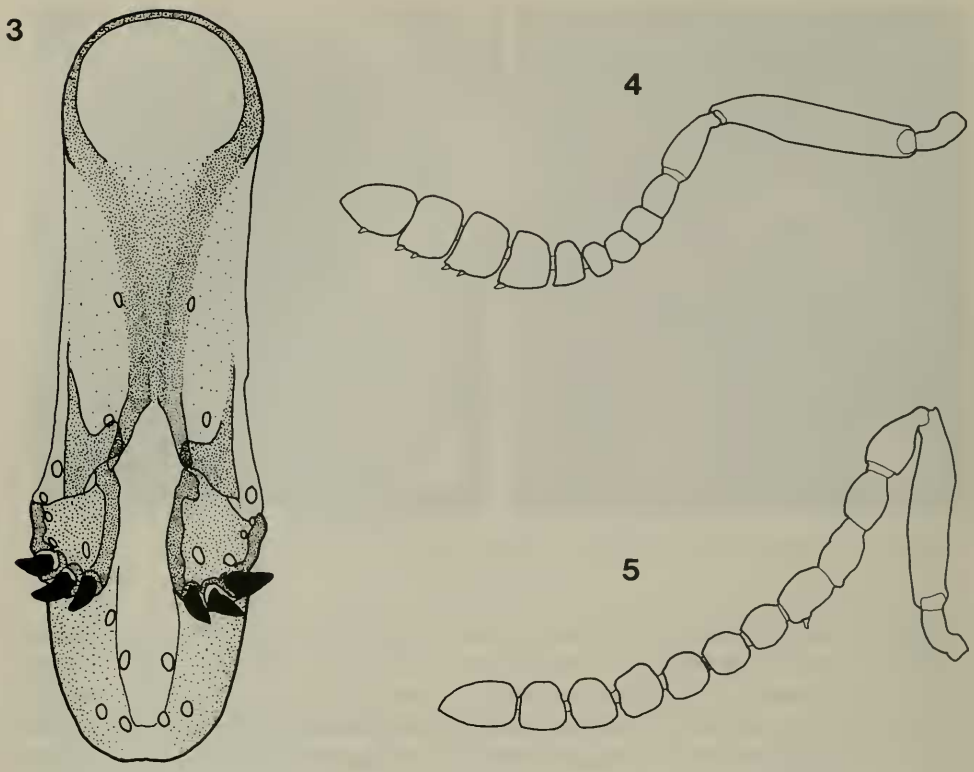
Antenna (Fig. 4) 11-segmented; clava (*sensu* Johnson, *in press*) 5-segmented; claval formula (Bin, 1981): All-A8/1-2-2-1; A6 strongly transverse; L,W A7 < A8; A8–A10 transverse. Wings clear, surpassing apex of metasoma; basal vein weakly pigmented; postmarginal vein longer than stigmal; hindwing narrow, greatest width 0.9–1.8× length of fringe at that point ($\bar{x}$ = 1.4, SD = 0.2, n = 19).

Male.—*Measurements:* DCI: 1.75–2.28 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.92, SD = 0.11); FCI: 1.15–1.39 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.25, SD = 0.06); frons width/eye height: 1.12–1.44 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.32, SD = 0.08); W/L T1: 3.2–6.2 ($\bar{x}$ = 4.1, SD = 0.7, n = 18); L/W T2: 0.60–1.07 ($\bar{x}$ = 0.82, SD = 0.13, n = 18); L/W metasoma: 1.17–1.61 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.43, SD = 0.10); TL: 1.05–1.38 mm ($\bar{x}$ = 1.26 mm, SD = 0.07); W hindwing/L fringe: 0.9–1.5 ($\bar{x}$ = 1.2, SD = 0.1, n = 18); sample: 20-1.

Antenna (Fig. 5); genitalia (Fig. 3): laminae volsellares in form of 2 heavily melanized rods, closely approximated 3/4 of their length from base; digital teeth large, heavy, 3/digitus; penis valves weakly melanized; aedeagal lobe large, length 0.4× total length of aedeagovolsellar shaft.

Host.—Unidentified noctuid (wild); *Trichoplusia ni* (laboratory culture).

Material.—Holotype ♀: UCR lab culture, ex: *Trichoplusia ni*; orig. Guatemala, 11.iv.1977, E. R. Oatman, ex: unknown noctuid. Paratypes: 20 ♂, 19 ♀ with same data as holotype. Many more specimens from the same culture were also ex-



Figs. 3–5. *Telenomus solitus.* 3, Male genitalia, ventral view (basal segment removed), 713×. 4, Female antenna, 187×. 5, Male antenna, 187×.

amined. The holotype has been deposited in the collection of the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Remarks.—*Telenomus solitus* belongs to the *californicus* species group of the genus on the basis of the closely approximated, rodlike laminae volsellares and the large digital teeth of the male genitalia (see Johnson, *in press*). This species may be distinguished from the other species of that group by the combination of its small size, more quadrate head (DCI = 1.9 vs. DCI > 2.0), short A3 of the female (L A2 > A3), and, most easily, by the shape of the male genitalia, particularly the large, broad aedeagal lobe and the strongly melanized volsellar region.

The name *solitus,* from the Latin for customary, habitual or usual, refers to the lack of notable external characters in this species.

Literature Cited

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